WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a multi-mode bi-directional communications device, an apparatus for processing received downstream data comprising:

a tuner;

a demodulator;

a first filter adapted for selective coupling between the tuner and the demodulator; and

a second filter adapted for selective coupling between the tuner and the demodulator.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first filter has a bandwidth of 6MHz.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the second filter has a bandwidth of 8MHz.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

a selector for selectively coupling the first filter and the second filter between the tuner and the demodulator.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the selector comprises a switch selected from the group consisting of transistors, diodes, electro-mechanical and mechanical switches.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the downstream data is filtered to pass a data signal modulation frequency of greater than 88MHz to the tuner.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the multi-mode bi-directional communications device is a cable modem.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus supports multiple standards selected from the group consisting of the North American Data Over Cable Service Interface Specifications (DOCSIS) and the European DOCSIS standards.

9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first filter is a surface acoustic wave (SAW) filter.

10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the second filter is a surface acoustic wave (SAW) filter.